

**County of Loudoun**  
**Department of Planning**  
**MEMORANDUM**

**DATE:** September 26, 2007

**TO:** Loudoun County Planning Commission

**FROM:** Van Armstrong, AICP  
Program Manager, Land Use Review

**SUBJECT: October 1, 2007 Planning Commission Committee of the Whole  
– Telecommunications Study briefing**

**Background**

On September 17, 2007, the Planning Commission held a public hearing regarding five proposed telecommunication facilities to be located in the rural Loudoun County region. There were numerous speakers for each of these applications who spoke with some in support of the facilities and the majority with issues and/or opposed to the facilities. Concerns were raised regarding potential visual impact, health risks, property values, alternative services or locations and general need for the facilities. The Commission asked questions of staff and the applicant, and requested additional information on other telecommunications applications under review by the County, and requested copies of the May 25, 2007 Atlantic Group study and inventory of telecommunication facilities.

The Planning Commission closed the public hearing for the applications and voted to send all the telecommunications applications to a future committee for further discussion. In addition, the Commission requested that a telecommunications consultant be obtained to explain the telecommunications industry requirements and needs, radio frequency coverages and to generally answer questions from the County regarding consideration of the telecommunication requests proposed.

County staff has contacted Scott Bashore with the County Department of Information Technology, who has agreed to attend the October 1, 2007 Commission work session. George Condyles IV, President/COO of The Atlantic Group of Companies, Inc. has been contacted and has agreed to attend this work session to summarize the May 2007 study (attached) and answer questions.

County staff is pursuing a contract to update information from the Atlantic Group study and will provide an information update at the October 1 meeting. Staff will confirm with the Planning Commission what additional questions and information would be helpful to the Commission.

Community Wireless Structures, applicant for four of the five telecommunication applications has submitted a letter (attached) summarizing their concerns and position on the status of the application reviews.

### **Attachments**

1. CWS response letter of September 26, 2007
2. Supplement To the Strategic Plan for Wireless Telecommunication Facilities -2002, dated May 25, 2007, prepared by The Atlantic Group of Companies, Inc.